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Secretary of State
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The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

President Barack Obama

Dear President Obama,

I am writing to again bring your attention to the military service of Mr. Frederick Mayer of Charles Town, West Virginia. It is of the utmost importance that you carefully consider his actions during World War II and present to him the Medal of Honor.

Mr. Mayer's conspicuous bravery and gallantry above and beyond the call of duty demand recognition, even if he himself does not seek the spotlight. Like the rest of "The Greatest Generation," he views his military service as something that needed to be done and he does not need a Medal of Honor to validate it. But his service can go unrecognized no longer.

Mr. Mayer is of Jewish descent and was born in Germany, and fled that nation during the rise of National Socialism and Adolf Hitler. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, Mr. Mayer joined the United States Army. He was recruited into the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), and in February of 1945 parachuted into Germany with two team members.

Mr. Mayer was undercover as a German Lieutenant and was able to learn the location of trains loaded with supplies for the Italian Theater. Through Mr. Mayer's efforts and the bravery of his entire team those trains were attacked and destroyed, blocking a vital pass through the Alps and preventing the resupply of enemy forces.

After his capture, Mr. Mayer was able to negotiate with the German Gauleiter of Tyrol and Vorarlberg – guaranteeing the peaceful surrender of the City of Innsbruck to the American 103rd Infantry Division under General Anthony McAuliffe.

This is a very brief overview of his incredible service. I have enclosed a DVD of a meeting with Mr. Mayer, where he details his actions in that tumultuous winter and spring of 1945. I ask that you, Mr. President, ensure that his actions are recognized by a grateful nation with the presentation of the Medal of Honor.

Sincerely

Natalie E. Tennant

West Virginia Secretary of State

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